A Faculty Recital with

Norman Nelson, violinist

and

Helmut Brauss, pianist

Wednesday, February 28, 1990

at 8 pm

Convocation Hall, Arts Building
University of Alberta

Program

Department of Music
University of Alberta

Program Notes:

The concise and joyful Sonata for Violin and Piano by Beethoven already reveals the new trend of giving the violin a much more substantial say in this combination of instruments than was the case in its predecessors by Haydn and Mozart. Subsequently the direction towards a full fledged balanced duo has finally materialized in the three Brahms Sonatas for Violin and Piano, as can be seen in the wonderfully, melodically lyrical A-Major Sonata which Brahms composed during one of his happiest times on the shores of the lake of Thun in Switzerland. The youthfully exuberant and extended Sonata by R Strauss then demonstrates the apotheosis of the virtuosic Duo for Violin and Piano, a romantic masterpiece which explores all possible sonorities of both instruments in a most ingenious and balanced way.

Yamaha C7 Grand Piano Compliments of
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Program

Sonata op. 12,1, D-major (1797) Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770-1827)

Allegro con brio
THEMA CON VARIAZIONI - Andante con moto
RONDO - Allegro

Sonata op. 100, A-major (1886) Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Allegro amabile
Andante tranquillo
Allegretto grazioso

Intermission

Sonata op. 18, E-Flat major (1887) Richard Strauss
(1864-1949)

Allegro ma non troppo
IMPROVISATION - Andante cantabile
Andante Allegro

Norman Nelson

Norman Nelson was born in Dublin, Ireland and educated in England with studies at the Royal College of Music, London. At the age of 24, he held the position of assistant concert-master with the London Symphony, subsequently holding the same position with the Royal Philharmonic, and the BBC Symphony. He has appeared as violin soloist with many orchestras, including the London Symphony, the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, the BBC Symphony, and the Vancouver Symphony. As a chamber musician, Mr Nelson has performed in every major city in Canada and the United States, in Europe, Russia, Japan and the People's Republic of China. He has recorded numerous discs for the International Service of the CBC, and at present performs frequent coast-to-coast broasdcasts in Canada. Mr Nelson holds the position of Professor of Violin and Chamber Music at the University of Alberta.

Helmut Brauss

Helmut Brauss received his early music training in Europe. Inspired by mentors such as Elly Ney, Hans Ehlers and Edwin Fischer he developed a deep affinity to the great European interpretative tradition. It naturally follows, that he should devote himself especially to the music of Beethoven, Schumann and Brahms, although his repertoire ranges from baroque to contemporary composers, among whom Bartok is of growing significance to him. He has shown his extraordinary pianistic ability and stylistic versatility in more than 1500 recitals, chamber music concerts, appearances as soloist with orchestras and radio broadcasts throughout central Europe, the British Isles, Scandinavia, USA, Japan, Korea, China and Canada. He has seven recordings to his credit with works by Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Chopin, Pfitzner, Poulenc and Khatchaturian. Professor Helmut Brauss teaches piano and chamber music in the Department of Music at the University of Alberta.